

U.S. Spy Network Seized, Havana's Radio Declares

18 Persons Arrested, Including Five Women

By FENTON WHEELER

HAVANA (AP) — The Cuban government announced Saturday it has broken a spy ring it claims was organized by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and arrested 18 persons, five of them women.

The Interior Ministry said the ring obtained information about Cuba's armed strength, the 1970 sugar crop, ship movements and oil supplies and sent it to the United States on radio equipment supplied by the CIA.

It said the spy network was organized by Manuel "Binchinche" de los Santos Garcia Ramirez, a onetime illegal entrant in Cuba who now operates out of Miami. The ministry said he sent two agents to Havana a year ago, but they were captured during the August, 1967, conference of the Latin American Solidarity Organization, an international leftist group.

One of the women arrested was identified as Amapro Couzo Rodriguez, Ramirez' girl friend.

The Communist party newspaper Granma and semiofficial organ El Mundo carried photographs of radio transmitters, codes and special writing paper for invisible ink that the govern-

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ment claimed was supplied to the ring by the CIA.

The Interior Ministry said the information the spies obtained was to be used "fundamentally in plans of the North American government to frustrate the economic development of our country and to carry out acts of sabotage on important lines of our economy."

(In Washington, a spokesman said the State Department would have no comment.)

The Interior Ministry said the 18 prisoners have been turned over for trial to the Havana Revolutionary Tribunal. It identified the leaders of the group as Jorge Fernandez Trujillo, 45, an unemployed Havana resident, and Ramon Sanz Cao, 24, a former employe of the Cuban oil industry.

It said Trujillo and Sanz Cao received \$4,000 to set up the ring and later received more money from an unidentified CIA agent.

The ministry said the group operated from the home of Sanz Cao in a Havana suburb, where the radio transmitters and other equipment were seized. It said Trujillo had a record of "illegal dealings in jewelry and money."